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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
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Naoshi Matsuo

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STAAS & HALSEY LLP
SUITE 700
1201 NEW YORK AVENUE, N.W.
WASHINGTON, DC 20005

EXAMINER

HALIM, SAHERA

ART UNIT

PAPER NUMBER

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Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

DETAILED ACTION

1. This Office Action is in response to REC filled on March 23, 2005.
2. Claim 2 has been cancelled.
3. Claims 1 and 3-11 are pending in the application.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 103

4. The following is a quotation of 35 U.S.C. 103(a) which forms the basis for all obviousness rejections set forth in this Office action:

(a) A patent may not be obtained though the invention is not identically disclosed or described as set forth in section 102 of this title, if the differences between the subject matter sought to be patented and the prior art are such that the subject matter as a whole would have been obvious at the time the invention was made to a person having ordinary skill in the art to which said subject matter pertains. Patentability shall not be negated by the manner in which the invention was made.

5. Claim 1, 3-11 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over US. Pat. No. 6,609,106 to Robertson (hereinafter Robertson) in view of Gonzalo, U.S. Pub. 2005/0139650 (hereinafter Gonzalo).
6. Regarding claim 1, Robertson teaches an information providing system, comprising: one or a plurality of user terminals (Fig. 1, numeral 50); a service providing server providing a service to the user terminal (Fig. 1, numeral 60, IS); and an information brokering server brokering information on contents of the service provided by the service providing server to the user terminal, wherein the information brokering server comprises (Fig. 1 numeral 70, Gift Registry Service):

an information brokering part receiving an information search request from the user terminal, and brokering corresponding information to the user terminal in accordance with the search request; and a user access information control part notifying the service providing server of user access information generated by evaluating contents of access to the information brokering server by a user, based on an information search action by the user and contents of information brokered to the user (Fig. 30 and 41 and col. 18, line 34 – 45 and col. 19, lines 50 – 60; user sends search request and receives content of gift registry);

an information browsing environment detecting part detecting information on a configuration of the user terminal; and an information editing part editing information provided by the service providing server in a data format suitable for presentation in the configuration of the user terminal based on the information on the configuration of the user terminal detected by the information browsing environment detecting part, wherein the information brokering part brokers the information edited by the information editing part to the user terminal (col. 13, line 7 – 32), and

the service providing server comprises: an incentive adjusting part adjusting contents of an incentive to be given to the user based on the user access information notified from the information brokering server, in a case of receiving an information providing a request from the user of the user terminal (col. 13, lines 1-35); and

an executing part receiving the information providing the request from the user and executing the service in accordance with the information providing the request

according to the contents of the incentive (col. 13, line 1-35, incentive is modified according to the number of participating users).

Although the system disclosed by Robertson shows substantial features of the claimed invention (discussed above), it fails to explicitly disclose that information is detected on configuration of the user terminal to determine capabilities of the user terminal for browsing information. However, Gonzalo discloses information is detected on configuration of the user terminal to determine capabilities of the user terminal for browsing information (see abstract and page 3, [0018], Gonzalo teaches that the user terminal is configured based on terminal capabilities). Therefore, it would have been obvious for a person having ordinary skill in the art at the time of the invention to combine the teachings of Gonzalo and Robertson in order to allow the user to serve the web based on user's references and customizations (see page 1 003-004).

7. As to claim 3, Robertson teaches the information providing system according to claim 2, wherein, in a case where text information can be presented at the user terminal, the information editing part conducts edition of incorporating banner advertisement in a part of the information provided by the service providing server (col. 13, line 1 – 34).

8. Reference to claim 4, Robertson teaches the information providing system according to claim 1, wherein the user access information control part in the information

brokering server evaluates the contents of access to the information brokering server by the user, considering an information search history of the user and contents of user information included in the search request by the user (col. 18, line 34 – 57 and col. 22, line 59 – col. 23, line 18).

9. Regarding claim 5, Robertson teaches the information providing system according to claim 1, wherein the information brokered to the user terminal in the information brokering server contains main information and sub-information, the main information is retrieved based on the information search request from the user, and the sub-information is not retrieved based on the information search request from the user (col. 18, line 34 – 57 and col. 22, line 59 – col. 23, line 18).

10. Reference to claim 6, Roberson teaches the information providing system according to claim 5, wherein, in a case where the user notifies the service providing server of an information providing request regarding the sub-information and an information providing request regarding the main information, the incentive adjusting part adjusts the contents of the incentive to be given to the user, based on the user access information and the information providing requests regarding the main information and the sub-information (col. 13, line 1-35).

11. Regarding claim 7, Roberson teaches the information providing system according to claim 5, wherein the information providing system comprises a plurality of

information brokering servers, the main information corresponds to an information search request from the user, and the sub-information is provided by a service providing server other than a service providing server that provides the main information (col. 18, line 34 – 57 and col. 22, line 59 – col. 23, line 18, and Figs. 30 and 41).

12. As to claim 8, Roberson discloses the information providing system according to claim 1, wherein the incentive adjusting part adjusts the contents of the incentive to be given to the user, based on the user access information and an information providing request history of the user (col. 13, line 1-35).

13. Reference to claims 9, 10 and 11, claims 9 –11 are rejected under the same rationale as claim 1. Although claims 9 – 11 are not identical to claim 1, they do not further teach or differ over the limitations of claim 1.

Response to Arguments

14. Applicant's arguments with respect to claims 1, 3-11 have been considered but are moot in view of the new ground(s) of rejection.

Conclusion

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Sahera Halim whose telephone number is (571) 272-

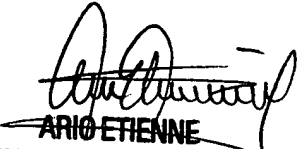
4003. The examiner can normally be reached on Mondays and Thursdays from 8:00-6:30.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Ario Etienne can be reached on (571) 272-4001. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 571-273-8300.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free). If you would like assistance from a USPTO Customer Service Representative or access to the automated information system, call 800-786-9199 (IN USA OR CANADA) or 571-272-1000.

Sahera Halim
Patent Examiner
AU: 2157

June 5, 2006


ARIO ETIENNE
SUPERVISORY PATENT EXAMINER
ELECTRONIC BUSINESS CENTER 2100